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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00958 071436Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /033 W
----------071533Z 098526 /46
R 071140Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3085

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0958

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PDIP EAID
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE HIGH LEVEL VISITS

REF: (A) STATE 129186, (B) CONAKRY 0927

1. GUINEAN INTENTIONS RE MINISTERIAL VISIT (OR VISITS) TO WASHINGTON HAVE NOT FIRMED. SEKOU CAMARA TOLD AMBASSADOR AND DCM IN CONVERSATIONS JUNE 3 AND 6 THAT SANGARE WOULD PROBABLY NOT GO AT ALL. CAMARA ADDED IN GREAT CONFIDENCE THAT PRESIDENT WAS NOW CONSIDERING INVITATION TO "A SENIOR AMERICAN PERSONALITY" TO VISIT CONAKRY. THIS WOULD BE DESIGNED TO PERMIT "A RESOLUTION OF ALL OUTSTANDING BILATERAL DIFFICULTIES". A PERSONAL INVITATION FROM SEKOU TOURE MIGHT BE DELIVERED IN WASHINGTON BY HIS BROTHER (AND MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO) ISMAEL TOURE, PERHAPS IN LATE JUNE, CAMARA SAID.

2. IN RESPONSE TO IDEAS LIKE THIS EMBASSY IS TAKING LINE THAT HIGH LEVEL VISITS IN EITHER DIRECTION COULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE ONLY IF THE SUBSTANCE TO BE DISCUSSED AND THE DIFFERENCES TO BE RESOLVED WERE TALKED THROUGH AND SETTLED IN ADVANCE. REQUEST DEPARTMENT NOT RAISE IDEA OF ISMAEL
TOURE VISIT OR OF INVITATION TO SENIOR
AMERICAN WITH AMBASSADOR KOUROUMA OR MOUNTAGA KEITA,
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SINCE SEKOU CAMARA CLAIMS THAT NOT EVEN ISMAEL HIMSELF IS YET AWARE OF PRESIDENT'S THINKING, WHICH CAMARA WAS NOT AUTHORIZED TO SHARE WITH US.

3. COMMENT: SEKOU TOURE SEEMS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND VERY HOPEFUL OF IMPROVED GUINEAN/AMERICAN RELATIONS. HE KEENLY DESIRES MORE US PRIVATE

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INVESTMENT (ESP. US STEEL) AND WOULD LIKE MORE US AID
(ESP. PL-480).

4. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT -- DUE TO REPORT OF AM-
BASSADOR KOUROUMA AND MINISTER KABASSAN, AF/W DIRECTOR'S
VISIT TO CONAKRY, AND CONSISTENT EMBASSY PRESSURE --G
G
FINALLY HAS GRASPED THAT FAPULITATION SOVIET RECONNAISSANCE
DEPLOYMENTS AGAINST US ATLANTIC FLEET IS A SERIOUS BAR
TO IMPROVED RELATIONS. FOR REASONS WITH WHICH WE ARE
FAMILIAR, TOURE IS RELUCTANT TOCURB THESE FLIGHTS AND
MAY HOPE THAT HIS PERSONAL CHARISMATIC IMPACT ON A SENIOR
AMERICAN OFFICIAL MIGHT SOMEHOW PAPER OVER THE PROBLEM AND
ALLOW HIM TO POSTPONE OR AVOID A DIFFICULT ACTION.

5. BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAINTAIN THE LINE THAT MINISTERIAL
VISITS IN EITHER DIRECTION MUST BE CAREFULLY PREPARED
IN ADVANCE, AND THAT NO SENIOR MEETING COULD BE EXPECTED
TO HAVE A POSITIVE OUTCOME UNLESS PRECEDED BY A NEW
GUINEAN POSITION ON MATTERS DIRECTLY TOUCHING OUR IN-
TERESTS. IN THIS CONNECTION, BY RELEASING 10,000 MT
RICE US HAS ALREADY TAKEN UNILATERAL CONCILIATORY ACTION.
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